

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/182,279

Applicant(s)

COPPERSMITH ET AL.

Examiner

CUONG H. NGUYEN

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/07/05 (THE AMENDMENT).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5,6,8,9,11-13,15,16,19-21 and 24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 October 1998 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

CUONG H. NGUYEN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3661

1. This Office Action is the answer to the amendment received on 4/07/2005, which paper has been placed of record in the file.

Status of the claims

2. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11-13, 15-16, 19-21, and 24 are pending; claims 4, 7, 10, 14, 17-18, and 22-23 are canceled.

Priority

3. This application is a CIP of US application serial no. 09/060,026 filed on 4/14/1998, which is US Patent 6,069,955.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art closest to the common subject matter of the independent method claims 1, 16, and 21 are the references to Berson (US Pat. 5,768,384), Doljack (US Pat. 6,442,276), Kowalski (US Pat. 6,152,367), and Kowalski (6,058,481), these references do not teach or suggest:

A system for verifying authenticity of a manufactured product with an ability to determine the authenticity of an article by using a zero-knowledge protocol to decrypt information contained in an electronic tag attached to the article (if the public key used at the point of sale cannot decrypt the tag, the article is a counterfeit; and if the routing information at the point of sale does not match up with the decrypted routing information stored on the electronic tag, then the article is a fake).

5. Dependent claims 2-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11-13, 15, 19-20, and 24 are allowable because they are dependent on their parent claims 1, 16, and 21.

For the reason discussed above, the application is now set in a condition for allowance due to none of the references of record, teaches or fairly suggests the recited limitation as claimed.

- Claims 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-20, 21, and 24 are renumbered as claims 7, 10, 9, 4, 14, 15-16, 12, and 13.

6. Note: Ogihara et al. reference (US Pat. 6,880,753) is not proper for a priority date; furthermore, it does not teach about using zero-knowledge protocol for authentication.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-6759. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THOMAS G. BLACK can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax number for the organization where this application is assigned is 571-273-6956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


CUONG H. NGUYEN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3661

